

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 17-31, 36-42, and 47-49 are currently pending. Applicant has withdrawn claims 13-16, 32-35, and 43-46 from consideration.

The Examiner has identified in the application the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I as shown in Figures 1-4;

Species II as shown in Figure 5;

Species III as shown in Figure 6; and

Species IV as shown in Figure 7.

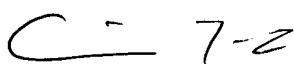
The Examiner has required election of one of the species for prosecution. In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute Species I as illustrated in Figs. 1-4. Claims 1-12, 17-31, 36-42, and 47-49 read on Species I, as illustrated in Figs. 1-4. Claims 13-16, 32-35, and 43-46 have been withdrawn. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims at a later date.

Applicant also notes that at least claims 1, 20, and 39 are generic. Each of claims 1, 20, and 39 reads on each and every species identified by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

Applicant elects to prosecute Species I illustrated in Figs. 1-4 and including claims 1-12, 17-31, 36-42, and 47-49. Applicant also requests that the Examiner reconsider the conclusion that no claims are generic and provide an indication that at least claims 1, 20, and 39 are generic to the four identified species.

Respectfully submitted,


Casimir F. Laska
Reg. No. 30,862

Docket No.: 031009-9131-01
Michael Best & Friedrich LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 3300
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108
414.271.6560